

REMARKS

This application has been further carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated April 8, 2008. Claims 15 to 17, each of which are independent, are pending in the application. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the courtesies and thoughtful treatment accorded Applicant's undersigned representative during the September 3, 2008 telephonic interview. This Amendment has been prepared based on the discussions and agreements reached during that interview.

In particular, during the interview, various clarifying amendments were discussed and those amendments have been presented herein.

Referring back to the prior art rejections, in the Office Action, Claims 1, 2, 4 to 6, 8, 10, 11 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Publication No. 2002/0156756 (Stanley) in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,159,111 (Ganapathy). For at least the following reasons, the claims presented herein are believed to be allowable.

The present invention generally relates to sharing of a new object generated by one client with other clients on a network. In the invention, the sharing process occurs via a management server. Thus, in the invention, the management server issues a unique client identifier for each client. When a client makes a connection request to the server, the server transmits a response that includes the unique client identifier issued by the server, whereby the client stores the identifier internally. Then, when the client generates a new object to be shared, the client generates object identification information for the object. To this end, the client generates the object identification information, which is represented as an integer, by including the unique client identifier in predetermined bits of the integer, and

by including other information uniquely generated by the client in other bits of the integer. The client then transmits the generated object identification information, along with information necessary for causing another client to generate the new object, to the server. The server then transmits this information on to other clients, whereby each client receiving this information can generate the new object in a three-dimensional virtual space.

Referring specifically to the claims, independent Claim 15 is directed to an information processing method for sharing, via a management server, an object in a three-dimensional virtual space between a plurality of client apparatuses, the method comprising a receiving step of the management server receiving a connection request from one of the plurality of client apparatuses, an issuing step of the management server issuing, in response to receiving the connection request from the client apparatus, a unique client identifier for identifying the respective client apparatus that transmitted the connection request, wherein the issuing step issues a different unique client identifier for each of the plurality of client apparatuses, a transmitting step of the management server transmitting, to the respective client apparatus that transmitted the connection request, the unique client identifier corresponding to the respective client apparatus, the client apparatus storing in a storage unit thereof the unique client identifier transmitted by the management server, a generating step of the client apparatus generating a new object, an identification information generating step of, when the new object is generated, the client apparatus generating object identification information of the generated new object, the object identification information being represented as an integer having a predetermined number of bits, and including the unique client identifier issued by the issuing step of the management server in predetermined bits of the integer, and information uniquely

generated by the client apparatus into bits other than the predetermined bits of the integer, a transmitting step of the client apparatus transmitting, the generated object identification information and information necessary for causing another client to generate the object to the management server, the management server transmitting the object identification information and the information necessary for causing another client to generate the object to other client apparatuses among the plurality of client apparatuses, and a generating step of each of the other client apparatuses generating the new object in a three-dimensional virtual space based on the object identification information and the information necessary for causing another client apparatus to generate the object transmitted by the management server.

Claim 16 is directed to the client apparatus that generates the new object of method Claim 15, while Claim 17 is a computer medium claim that substantially corresponds to Claim 16.

The art of record, alone or in any permissible combination, is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of the invention, and in particular, is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the features of, when a client apparatus generates a new object, the client apparatus generating object identification information of the generated new object, the object identification information being represented as an integer having a predetermined number of bits, and including a unique client identifier issued by a management server as a response to a connection request, into predetermined bits of the integer, and information uniquely generated by the client apparatus into bits other than the predetermined bits of the integer, and transmitting the generated object identification information and information necessary for causing another client apparatus to generate the

new object to the management server, wherein the management server transmits the object identification information and the information necessary for causing another client apparatus to generate the new object to other client apparatuses, and wherein each of the other client apparatuses generates the new object in a three-dimensional virtual space based on the object identification information and the information necessary for causing another client apparatus to generate the object transmitted by the management server.

Stanley merely states that a unique object identifier (UID) pane assigns each new data object a globally unique identification upon creation and generates a minimum set of functional property panes within the object (paragraph [0084]). Stanley is not seen to disclose or suggest how the UID pane can assign the globally unique identification comprising 128-bit, alphanumeric string (paragraph [0112]). That is, Stanley is not seen to teach that, when a client apparatus generates a new object, the client apparatus generating object identification information of the generated new object, the object identification information being represented as an integer having a predetermined number of bits, and including a unique client identifier issued by a management server as a response to a connection request, into predetermined bits of the integer, and information uniquely generated by the client apparatus into bits other than the predetermined bits of the integer, and transmitting the generated object identification information and information necessary for causing another client apparatus to generate the new object to the management server, wherein the management server transmits the object identification information and the information necessary for causing another client apparatus to generate the new object to other client apparatuses, and wherein each of the other client apparatuses generates the new object in a three-dimensional virtual space based on the object identification information

and the information necessary for causing another client apparatus to generate the object transmitted by the management server.

Ganapathy is seen to disclose defining a port address of a channel adapter as a combination of a global ID, such as IPv6 address, and a local ID. However, the global ID is not designated by a management server, but rather, is assigned by a vendor of the adapter. In addition, the local ID is assigned by a local subnet manager, which implements an address resolution process. This clearly indicates the local subnet manager needs communication to assign the local ID. Therefore, even if Ganapathy could have been combined with Stanley, such a combination would not have resulted in the features of, when a client apparatus generates a new object, the client apparatus generating object identification information of the generated new object, the object identification information being represented as an integer having a predetermined number of bits, and including a unique client identifier issued by a management server as a response to a connection request, into predetermined bits of the integer, and information uniquely generated by the client apparatus into bits other than the predetermined bits of the integer, and transmitting the generated object identification information and information necessary for causing another client apparatus to generate the new object to the management server, wherein the management server transmits the object identification information and the information necessary for causing another client apparatus to generate the new object to other client apparatuses, and wherein each of the other client apparatuses generates the new object in a three-dimensional virtual space based on the object identification information and the information necessary for causing another client apparatus to generate the object transmitted by the management server.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Claims 15 to 17 are believed to be allowable.

No other matters having been raised, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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